



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Kearney et al.

Art Unit: 1636

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>December 23, 2003</u>.

By:
Sharon C. Bizokas

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above application as follows.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.